Dear Sylvia, 1/23/81

When I came to the point in Lifton's book where he refers to a call he made to you in Lieveler's interest from Joe Ball's office I decided to renew FOIA requests through Doll, in the hope they do not refer me to all the other components. I'll keep you and roger posted.

To call Lifton a bxxx pig is to defame swine. He has spent the years perfecting his natural skills in the widest assortment of dishonesties and has become quite adept in them. As usual he is uninhibited in his pursuit of evil.

This work can be more than usually hurtful because its excesses will, inevitably, be wiped off on all critics, as George McMillan is now about for the New Republic. It also is very hirtful to a large number of innocents. Now it is no longer the people. It includes their children and grandchildren.

Sonnie Hidkins told me that several of those Lifton quote climbed all over him on cable TV& to his face. If anyone has time to get a transcript of that it could be useful.

I don't know if Lardner is going to review for the Post. I know that Lifton courted him and that he found Lifton's videotape effective and persuasive.

It would be good if I could be kept as informed as possible in the event I am asked by anyone.

I'd almost welcome being asked to do a review!

If you know what his great sensation everybidy was keeping no secret for years is I'd like to know if it is some of the drek in this sickness of a book. It cangt be the "discovery" of the report of surgery in the C-D'Neil report because I was in contact with many about it years ago. I don't recall if I included it in PM. It can hardly be the shuffling of the caskets or the critics are as bad a lot as he makes out.

Best wishes,